



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



In New York, prices were lower on all sizes. The market tone was barely steady to weak entering the weekend. Demand was light to moderate, slightly better where scattered features were active. Supplies ranged sufficient to ample for current needs. Breaking stock offerings were short to adequate for the light to moderate demand. Breaking schedules were irregular. Light type fowl were about sufficient for the moderate demand. Slaughter schedules were normal to reduced for the upcoming week.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

MIDWEST REGIONAL EGG Prices to producers in Iowa-Minnesota-Wisconsin were lower for all sizes with the balance of prices unchanged. Trade sentiment was barely steady to mostly weak. Cartoned egg sales had sagged and were reported as light to moderate with artic temperatures not enhancing food service trade. Institutional sales were light. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate with demand generally light. Floor stocks tight to closely balanced. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY	IA-MN-WI	Prices paid to producers.	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	114-123	118-120	LARGE	95-102	97	
LARGE	114-122	116-119	MEDIUM	82-86	84	
MEDIUM	100-106	103-105	SMALL	47-49		

MIDWEST AREA: IA,IL,IN,KY,MI,MN,OH,NE,ND,SD,WI,WV,Western NY, and Western PA

NORTHEAST REGIONAL EGG Prices were unchanged, however asking prices for next week's deliveries were trending slightly lower on all sizes. The market tone ranged barely steady to weak. Demand was light to moderate. Supplies were adequate to available. Breaking stock offerings were limited, ranging short to about adequate. Demand was light to moderate for reduced to regular breaking schedules for next week. Light type hens were about sufficient for the at least moderate demand. Slaughter schedules for the upcoming week were reported as less than normal to normal.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	116-129	119-123
LARGE	111-126	116-120
MEDIUM	99-114	104-107

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ, Eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL EGG Prices were unchanged for all sizes. The trade sentiment was steady to barely steady. Retail demand was moderate to occasionally good with scattered feature activity. Distributive movement was generally moderate. Supplies were generally adequate. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Demand was light for the adequate offers. Most breakers breaking for regular commitments and contractual agreements. Trade sentiment steady.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	119.5-128	121-124
LARGE	117.5-126	119-122
MEDIUM	102.5-111	104-107

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA: AR,AZ,CO,KS,LA,MO,NM,OK, and TX

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL EGG Prices were unchanged, however all sizes were trending lower. The market tone was barely steady to weak entering the weekend. Demand was light to moderate. Supplies were sufficient to available for present trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were short to about adequate for the light to moderate demand. Breaking schedules were normal to reduced. Light type hens were about sufficient for the moderate demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	102.25-126	120-123
LARGE	101.25-124	118-121
MEDIUM	81.25-109	102-106

SOUTHEAST AREA: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, Eastern TN, and Southern VA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

NEW YORK EGGS Prices declined 3 cents on medium and 2 cents on larger sizes. Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak entering the weekend. Demand was light to moderate. Supplies were fully adequate for present trade requirements.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	123-127
LARGE	121-125
MEDIUM	108-112

CHICAGO AND MIDWEST EGGS Prices were unchanged. The market tone was cautiously steady to weak. Retail and food service demand was mixed and ranged from light to moderate. Supplies were fully adequate, instances ample.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	120-128	122-124
LARGE	119-128	120-123
MEDIUM	105-114	108-110

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WESTERN REGION EGG Prices unchanged. The market tone was weak with asking prices for next week unchanged to 1 cent lower on jumbo, 1-2 cents lower on extra large, 2-3 cents lower on large, and 1 cent lower on medium. Retailer demand light. Offerings ample.

CALIFORNIA EGGS Prices unchanged. The market tone was weak with asking prices for next week 1 cent lower on jumbo, 2 cents lower on extra large and large, and 1 cent lower on medium and small. Retailer demand light. Offerings easily adequate. Small benchmark price 122. Ads in Southern California: smaller outlets- large dozen 89.

CALIFORNIA California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	169
EXTRA LARGE	166
LARGE	156
MEDIUM	142

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	147-160
EXTRA LARGE	145-156
LARGE	143-146
MEDIUM	129-132

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	299-379
EXTRA LARGE	289-349
LARGE	239-349
MEDIUM	199-299

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate with demand generally light as processors work mainly to fill regular commitments and contractual agreements. Schedules mixed. Floor stocks tight to closely balanced. Trade sentiment steady.

Prices paid, material exchanged, 30 dozen case equivalent, 48 lb., minimum net weight, delivered to breakers, cents per dozen.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	79-81	81
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	67-72	66-68
CENTRAL STATES AREA:		
AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI		

EASTERN REGION BREAKING STOCK Mostly prices were unchanged when compared to early week trading. The undertone was cautious with traders closely watching further market developments. Supplies were limited, but usually in a range of short to about adequate. Processing schedules were less than normal to normal. Demand was light to moderate in anticipation that offerings would increase next week. Cases broken under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending 24 January 2004 were 6% more than the previous week, but 2% less than a year ago.

Prices paid, material exchanged, 30 dozen case equivalent, 48 lb., minimum net weight, delivered to breakers, cents per dozen.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	77-81	78-80
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	64-72	65-69
EASTERN REGION AREA:		
AL,CT,DE,FL,GA,KY,ME,MD,MA,MS,NH,NJ,NY,NC,PA,RI,SC,TN,VT,VA,WV		

EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION - W/E 24-JAN-04
(Lbs in thousands) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED
CW	1,127,852	26,152	11,283	6,152	2,724	4,160
PW	1,121,425	26,135	11,028	6,108	2,619	4,155
LY	1,090,348	26,315	9,700	5,416	2,681	4,163
% CHG PW	1	0	2	1	4	0
% CHG LY	3	-1	16	14	2	0
2004	3,415,654	80,729	32,976	18,271	8,169	12,472
2003	3,427,717	80,752	31,898	17,814	8,744	12,705
% CHG YTD	0	0	3	3	-7	-2

	CURRENT WEEK	PREVIOUS WEEK	LAST YEAR
AVERAGE YIELD PER CASE -			
(INEDIBLE INCLUDED)	42.33	42.29	41.82
(INEDIBLE EXCLUDED)	38.65	38.59	38.00

NATIONAL LIQUID Pasteurized whites were reported at 75 cents fob in early week trading with pasteurized salt yolk reported from 60 to 61 cents fob. Trade sentiment was steady for whole egg, firm for whites and of mixed opinion on yolk. Offerings were balanced to adequate for whole egg and yolk with white offerings closely balanced to tight. Demand was fairly good for whole egg and yolk and very good for whites. Breaking stock prices were unchanged when compared to the past week.

Prices paid cents per lb., FOB Plant to 10:00AM non-pasteurized trucklot. For delivery within 14 days.

CLASS	LOADS	RANGE	WTD. AVG.	CHANGE FROM LAST WEEK
WHOLE	8	64.5-68	65.78	3.90
WHITES	14	69-72	70.07	1.01
YOLKS	12	58-61.5	58.63	.30

EASTERN REGION FROZEN Majority prices generally were unchanged to higher on whole and whites, but unchanged to lower on yolks when compared to the previous week's trading. Trade sentiment was steadier on yolks, and steady on whole and whites. Demand and trading ranged light to fair as most traders watched other markets. Supplies were short to adequate, with whites still in the closest position. Liquid and frozen eggs (ingredients included) processed under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending 24 January 2004 were 4% more than the previous week, and 19% more than last year.

Wholesale selling prices (cents per lb. in 30 lb containers)

	TRUCKLOTS RANGE	(MIN. 25 CONT.) MOSTLY	LTL RANGE
WHOLE	74-78	75-76	83-89
BLENDS (/)	TFEWR		84-105
WHITES	79-83	81-83	86-91
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	73-78	75-77	81-92
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	65-75	70-74	77-87

(/)- Whole plus yolk plus sweetener, generally 20-32% egg solids.

CENTRAL REGION FROZEN Frozen whole egg values ranged 1 to 2 cents higher with whites unchanged to a penny higher. Sugared and salted yolk prices were unchanged to lower. Trade sentiment was fully steady for whole egg, firm for whites with sugared and salted yolk cautiously steady. Offerings were usually adequate with demand mostly light. Higher asking prices for frozen yolk products continued to be ignored by the majority of buyers. Breaking stock prices were unchanged when compared to the previous week.

Wholesale selling prices (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

	TRUCKLOTS RANGE	MOSTLY
WHOLE	75-77	76
WHITES	81-83	
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	74-77	77
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	70-74	70-72

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FROZEN Prices 1 cent higher on whites, unchanged on whole and yolks. Southern California breaking activity for the week ending 1/24 was 3% more than the previous week. Frozen demand and freezer stocks light.

Wholesale selling prices, f.o.b. shipping point (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

	LTL (MIN. 25 CONT.) RANGE
WHOLE	82-85
WHITES	86-89
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	81-84
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	78-81

NATIONAL DRIED EGG REPORT Majority prices were unchanged on whole and blends, unchanged to lower on yolks, and higher on albumen when compared to a week earlier. Trading was limited and still mostly short termed commitments into the first quarter. Trade sentiment was steady to full steady on albumen and generally steady on whole and yolks. Dried eggs processed under federal inspection for the week ending 24 January 2004 were 4% higher than the previous week, and 2% more than last year. The total year to date dried egg produced were 7% less than a year ago.

Wholesale selling prices, dollars per lb., in containers, trucklot & less-than-trucklot volumes.

WHOLE	2.90-3.40	MOSTLY 3.00-3.15
YOLKS	1.70-2.10	MOSTLY 1.70-1.75
ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	5.90-6.50	MOSTLY 6.00-6.25
BLENDS (WHOLE PLUS SWEETENER)	1.95-2.15	MOSTLY 2.00-2.10

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR JAN 23, 2004-JAN 29, 2004**CURRENT LOADS** 54.50**FUTURE LOADS** 35.00**TOTAL LOADS** 89.50

		SE		NE		MW			SC		NW		SW			
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS		CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS
GNR W 1	97.00	104.09	99.00	100.17	—	—	27.00		GNR W 1	—	106.33	—	—	—	116.75	12.00
GNR W 2	—	98.00	94.00	—	—	—	1.00		GNR BR 1	—	115.29	—	—	—	—	1.75
GNR W 3	—	89.00	84.00	90.00	—	—	3.00		GL W J	112.00	—	—	123.50	—	—	2.00
GNR W 4	—	—	—	87.50	—	—	4.00		GL W XL	106.00	110.42	—	—	—	109.74	12.75
GNR BR 1	113.00	—	—	—	—	—	3.00		GL W LG	105.00	—	—	122.42	—	114.41	12.75
GL W J	—	—	112.00	113.00	—	—	2.00		GL W MD	87.00	—	—	—	—	105.94	9.00
GL W XL	—	118.29	108.60	109.80	95.32	114.00	31.25		GL BR XL	—	—	—	—	—	—	.50
GL W LG	—	116.60	105.75	110.00	106.79	117.00	27.75		GL BR LG	—	—	—	—	—	—	.50
GL W MD	98.00	—	91.63	89.89	89.07	99.00	22.00		NRBS - 42	—	64.00	—	—	—	—	1.00
GL W SM	—	—	51.20	52.60	55.25	57.00	2.25									
GL BR XL	—	—	—	—	—	—	.50									
GL BR LG	—	—	—	—	—	129.20	1.75									
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	—	80.00	4.00									
NRBS - 45	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00									

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT-MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED. LOAD MOVEMENT REPRESENTS TOTAL MOVEMENT WITHIN 6 REGIONS.

LIGHT TYPE HENS

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL
WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS
(INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER
CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN Majority values were unchanged to slightly lower when compared to a week earlier. Demand was at least moderate. Offerings of spent fowl were about adequate. Processing schedules were less than normal to normal. Opinions on removal cost were generally steady. **RANGE MAJORITY**
REMOVAL COST 0-12 8.5-11

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Disposal costs were too few to report. Demand was light for at least adequate offerings of usable light fowl. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were as desired. Costs were expected to remain steady. **RANGE MAJORITY**
REMOVAL COST TOO FEW TO REPORT

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Values ranged lower. Offerings were in a wide range of barely adequate to fully adequate. Demand was fairly good. Opinions of value were unsettled.

RANGE MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST 0-7 5.5-7

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plant schedules moderate. Offerings adequate.

SHELL EGGS-COMBINED REGIONAL

AVERAGE PRICES ON SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A LARGE OR BETTER, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	121.00	118.00	105.50
SOUTHEAST	121.50	119.50	104.00
MIDWEST	119.00	117.50	104.00
SOUTH CENTRAL	122.50	120.50	105.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	121.07	118.96	104.79

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations.

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Majority prices were unchanged on both heavy and light canners when compared to a week earlier. Demand was mostly moderate. Trading was very light. Available offerings were well cleared. Processing schedules were less than normal to normal. The undertone was steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
22-26.5 MAJORITY 23.5-24.5	29-37.5 MAJORITY 34-35

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS	HEAVY CANNER HENS
(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	(WITHOUT NECKS)
23-29 MAJORITY 26-27	31.5-39 MAJORITY 36.5-37.5

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER INSPECTION W/E 24-JAN-04
(PRELIMINARY)

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED DOMESTICALLY

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	1,429	1,228	2,657
LAST WEEK	1,526	1,278	2,804
SAME WEEK YR AGO	1,746	1,292	3,038
TO-DATE/2004	4,213	3,818	8,031
TO-DATE/2003	4,323	4,210	8,533

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
	THOUSANDS		
HEAD	309	18	327
LAST WEEK	346	0	346
SAME WEEK YR AGO	416	0	416
TO-DATE/2004	998	18	1,016
TO-DATE/2003	1,191	15	1,206

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, PLTRY DEVELOPMENT DIV.

TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	1,738	1,246	2,984
LAST WEEK	1,872	1,278	3,150
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,162	1,292	3,454
TO-DATE/2004	5,211	3,836	9,047
TO-DATE/2003	5,514	4,225	9,739

Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade**U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

	Week Ending January 17, 2004		Year-To-Date	
	2003	2002/1	2003	2002
LIQUID	50	363	99	779
FROZEN	0	0	0	0
DRIED	0	44	*0*	*44*
TOTAL	50	407	99	823

Previous report year to date dried exports to Canada 2003 and 2004 were incorrect

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

	Week Ending January 17, 2004		Year-To-Date	
	2003	2002/1	2003	2002
LIQUID	36	143	119	221
FROZEN	3	41	3	89
DRIED	0	0	0	40
TOTAL	39	184	122	350

Inspected Shell Eggs**U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

	Week Ending January 17, 2004		Year-To-Date	
	2003	2002 /1	2003	2002
JUMBO	0	0	50	0
EXTRA LARGE	0	0	0	0
LARGE	0	0	2,093	905
MEDIUM	0	0	30	20
UNGRADED	0	0	0	1,470
MISC	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	2,173	2,395

Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch in cooperation with Agriculture Canada, Poultry Development Division.

WEEKLY COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS - (INCL GOVT STOCKS)**SELECTED STGE CENTERS (IN THOUSANDS)**

		FREGS LBS	TURKS LBS	POP LBS
AM	01/26/04	3,201	134,811	41,686
AM	01/01/04	3,162	119,108	43,610
CHG		39	15703	-1924
PCT CHG		1%	13%	-4%

CHICKENS AND EGGS

December Egg Production up 1 Percent

U.S. egg production totaled 7.53 billion during December 2003, up 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.48 billion table eggs, and 1.06 billion hatching eggs, of which 995 million were broiler-type and 61.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during December 2003 averaged 339 million, down 1 percent from a year earlier. December egg production per 100 layers was 2,225 eggs, up 2 percent from December 2002.

December 2003 contained 23 weekdays, 1 holiday, and 4 Saturdays, compared to December 2002 which contained 22 weekdays, 1 holiday, and 4 Saturdays.

All layers in the U.S. on January 1, 2004, totaled 337 million, down 1 percent from a year ago. The 337 million layers consisted of 280 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 55.0 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.44 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on January 1, 2004, averaged 71.0 eggs per 100 layers, up 2 percent from a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 7.02 billion eggs during December 2003, up 1 percent from a year ago. The average number of layers during December, at 316 million, was down 1 percent from a year ago.

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS

W/E 24-Jan-2004

SELECTED	CW	PW	PCT CHG	
CONSUMING CENTERS	THOUSANDS		PW	LY
ATLANTA	28.7	28.3	1	33
BOSTON	3.5	3.5	0	9
CHICAGO	60.3	55.8	8	42
DETROIT	25.5	25.7	-1	-7
KANSAS CITY	3.6	8.8	-59	-10
LOS ANGELES	90.3	96.0	-6	7
NEW ORLEANS	7.7	10.0	-23	-40
NEW YORK	31.6	31.3	1	-6
ST. LOUIS	17.8	17.3	3	18
SAN FRANCISCO	19.8	24.1	-18	-11
TOTAL	288.8	300.8	-4	8
4 WK MVG AVG	309.5			

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT REPORT

W/E 24-Jan-04

(RECEIPTS FROM PRODUCERS)

REGIONS	CASES (IN THOUS)	PERCENT CHANGE FROM	
		PW	LY
N. ATLANTIC	217.8	1	-3
E.N. CENTRAL	566.1	-2	10
W.N. CENTRAL	288.8	-2	5
S. ATLANTIC	178.2	1	2
S. CENTRAL	109.7	4	21
WEST	178.2	-7	-3
TOTAL	1538.8	-1	5

MATCHED PLANTS REPORTING

85

85

NEW ENGLAND WEEKLY SHELL EGG REPORT

Jan 27, 2004

PRICES PAID PER DOZEN GRADE A BROWN EGGS IN CARTONS DELIVERED STORE DOOR.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
MAINE MOSTLY	170 -	164 -	130 -	86 -
NEW HAMPSHIRE MOSTLY	162-166 164-165	157-161 159-160	122-126 124-125	79-83 81-82
RHODE ISLAND MOSTLY	169-173 169	165-169 165	129-133 129	85-89 85
VERMONT MOSTLY	170-173 173	164-167 167	130-133 133	- -

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